

**10 July  
2003**

## **COALITION PROVISIONAL AUTHORITY**

### **CPA DAILY**

#### **Health**

Ambassador Bremer has approved a budget for the Ministry of Health for July through December 2003 in the amount of \$210 million. This includes \$125 million for pharmaceutical supplies and equipment replacing the Oil For Food contracts which expire November 21. The budget provides funding for basic health care services throughout Iraq, and equipment backlogs and repair. It adds \$31 million for generators to support hospitals in Baghdad in addition to the \$9 million previously approved for generator support. The former regime spent only \$13 million for health care in Iraq in 2002 for a population of 23 million, a 90% reduction from the amount spent in 1992

. Over 300 Ministry of Health Facilities Protective Services personnel have been trained and are now on the job to protect Ministry of Health facilities and personnel.

. The Coalition Provisional Authority approved \$1.7 million for refurbishment of the Ministry of Health offices in Baghdad.

. National Immunization Day was held June 22 and will occur monthly thereafter.

. The Iraq International Medical Assistance Committee (IMAC) is processing offers of health activities and assistance from donor organizations throughout the world.

. The "Adopt-A-Hospital" program has been established to provide needed medical equipment and infrastructure repairs to Iraqi hospitals and clinics.

#### **Key Messages**

- Coalition Forces continue to robustly patrol Iraq to eliminate crimes against people and property, rid populated areas of weapons, ammunition and explosives, and stop the black market trade in fuel and other commodities.
- Coalition Forces continue to conduct joint security patrols with Iraqi police in their efforts to increase the professionalism of the police force and prepare them for their role in a self-governed Iraq.
- Our task now is to help the Iraqis rebuild their economy.
- Economic team are working hard on a number of initiatives which will help get the economy going, and provide some much-needed jobs.
- After decades of manipulation and mismanagement, the road to a free and flourishing economy will not be an easy one. But we've already taken one big step: which was the ending of sanctions.

#### **Diary**

- 1400 – Background Brief – International media – inc Budget Brief
- 1600 – General Sanchez Press Conference

#### **Key Quote**

The budget: I've now agreed the budget for the rest of 2003. This is a back-to-work budget: I want to get Iraq and Iraqis back to work, while we also address important long-term priorities.

This budget will inject a significant amount of money into the economy, and into capital projects in particular. For example, 440 billion dinars is earmarked for the electricity sector, 110 billion for water and sewage, 225 billion for telecommunications, and 315 billion for public health. All these sectors are in desperate need of investment, after being starved of investment for so many years by the Saddam regime. This health budget, for example, represents a seven thousand per cent increase in spending on public health, compared to the last six months under Saddam Hussein.

I have emphasized before how damaged this economy is after more than thirty years of catastrophic mismanagement. It will take time to turn it into a healthy, free-market economy, which can provide jobs for the 60% of Iraqis who are currently unemployed. So a lot of this budget is aimed at improving life now for Iraqis, by investing in areas which impact their daily lives. But at the same time, we are starting to take the economic steps needed to get wealth-creating and job-creating industries going, and to encourage investment.

**Amb Bremer**, 8 July, Arabic Press Conference